

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 7 and 9 are now pending in the application. Claims 10-16 have been withdrawn from consideration. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

SPECIFICATION

The specification stands objected to for certain informalities. Applicants have amended the specification to delete reference to "arrow L" in the drawings. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102 AND § 103

Claims 1, 3, 7, 8, and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Schmid (U.S. Pat. No. 6,427,591). Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schmid (U.S. Pat. No. 6,427,591) in view of Johnson (U.S. Pat. No. 5,678,483). Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schmid (U.S. Pat. No. 6,427,591) in view of Capdeboscq (U.S. Pat. No. 6,029,573). Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schmid (U.S. Pat. No. 6,427,591) in view of Kuehnle (U.S. Pat. No. 5,343,234). Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Schmid (U.S. Pat. No. 6,427,591) in view of Dubuit (U.S. Pat. No. 6,397,740). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The claim amendments provided herein were proposed to Examiner Hsieh in connection with a telephone interview conducted on January 25, 2006. The interview was quite brief. Examiner Hsieh indicated his belief, based on a review of the proposed claim amendments (i.e., the amendments provided herein) that the claims as amended herein were patentable over these rejections, although Examiner Hsieh reserved the right to do additional searching. Accordingly, it is Applicant's belief that the inventions as defined by these claims are patentable over each of these rejections.

CONCLUSION


It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the

Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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